

To the worthy FREEHOLDERS of the County of GLOUCESTER.

GENTLEMEN,

AS you are now called out again to a new Election of a Representative, and as I hope you will feel with me that generous Warmth which should animate every BRITON in Favour of great and glorious Actions, give me Leave to lay before you some Memoirs of that NOBLE HOUSE whose Lineal Descendant Mr. BERKELEY asks the Favor of your Suffrages, and who is now treading in the Steps of his GREAT FOREFATHERS, and Fighting his COUNTRY'S BATTLES against its most perfidious Foe.

I shall take them from Evidence to which you may all have Recourse.

In 1148 The Ancestor of this Gentleman founded and endowed, and his Descendants were afterwards great Benefactors to the Abby of St. Augustine near Bristol, (now the Cathedral of that City.)

Can then any present, or quondam Member of that Church oppose a Descendant of the BERKELEY FAMILY without incurring the Guilt of Ingratitude?

In 1168 He took Part with, and entertained at Bristol, the King of Leinster, with 60 of his Adherants, who then solicited Succours from King Henry the 2d, and by Means whereof the Kingdom of Ireland was added to the English Crown.

This NOBLE FAMILY took Part also in those Wars, by which the GREAT CHARTER of your LIBERTY was obtained.

It was very active in the Wars of our EDWARDS and HENRYS.

*"Names dear to Fame; the first who deep impress'd
"On haughty Gaul the Terror of our Arms,
"That awes her Genius still.*

20 Edw. 3d } His Ancestor was with the King at the famous Battle of CRESSY.
(1346)

1356 He attended THE BLACK PRINCE, with a great Retinue of Knights and Esquires, and was one of the Chief Commanders at the Battle of POICTIERS, where the English gained immortal Honor.

In this Battle his Son was much wounded.

From 26th Henry 3d (1241) to the Reign of Henry 8th, and during that Reign, (containing a Series of about 300 Years) we find this NOBLE FAMILY on every Occasion taking a very forward and active Part in its Country's Cause,—checking and punishing the Incursions of the Scots and Welsh, then our Enemies, and lavishing its Treasure in raising Men in great Abundance.

In 1265 We find his Ancestor at the Siege of Kenelworth Castle
1298 ————— at the bloody Battle of Falkirk.

1300 ————— at the famous Siege of Kaerlaverok Castle, in the Shire of Dumfries.

1307 } He marched against Bruce King of Scotland; and
1 Edw. 2 } the same Year with his two Sons accompanied King Edward into France.

1313 He was at the Battle of Bannockburne.

1315 He raised 1500 Men for the King's Service.

1329 THOMAS LORD BERKELEY was sent to restrain the Incursions of the Scotch,

1335 He was again in Scotland with Edward the 3d, and being appointed to victual Bothwell Castle, he discomfited Lord William Douglas, (who lay in Ambush for him,) with little Loss, and gained such an entire Victory, that Douglas with three more only could hardly escape, and that by Favour of the Night.

1341 He was with the King in France, and one of the Chief Commanders in the English Army.

He marched against the Scotch, and overcame William Douglas, at Blackburne.

1374 THOMAS, 4th LORD BERKELEY, at the Age of 22 was in the Expedition made into France.

1378 He was employed by Sea and Land in the Wars against France and Spain.

1402 He was employed to repel the Incursions of Owen Glendowrdwy,—And

1403 He was made Admiral, when Charles the 6th of France sent Forces to Glendowrdwy, and they arrived at Milford-Haven; where he burnt 15 Sail of their Ships, and took 14, on board of which was the Seneschal of France, and 8 Officers of Note, whom he made Prisoners.

DO NOT YOUR HEARTS GLOW AT SUCH AN ACTION?

1513 THOMAS (afterwards 9th LORD BERKELEY) had a Command in the English Army, at the famous Battle of Floddenfield, and for his signal Service received the Honour of Knighthood from the General.

JAMES (afterwards 3d EARL OF BERKELEY) taking to the Sea Service, distinguished himself in many gallant Actions, during the Reign of Queen Anne.

1704 } In Sir George Rooke's Engagement with the French
August 13 } Fleet off Malaga, he commanded the Boyne of 80 Guns.

1707 } Our Gazette, No. 4361, gives the following Account
August } of his Lordship (then Lord Dursley) "Lord Dursley riding at Anchor before one of the Isles of Hieres, in which are 3 Forts, surprized the strongest, and summoned the two others, which surrendered at Discretion."

1745 In the REBELLION FORTY-FIVE, aimed at the Expulsion of the present Royal Family, the Subversion of the Protestant Religion, and the happy Constitution of Old England both in Church and State; most of you know that the Father of the present Candidate raised a Regiment for the Crown, at his own Expence.

Is there a Family then in our County that has shone in the Annals of History more conspicuously for illustrious Deeds?—Is there a NAME that can outdo it? The Reward of Public Virtue, should be Public Honor from Generation to Generation.—Can you then call yourselves Englishmen and reject a BERKELEY? What merit can a Country Gentleman, (though of ever so good Qualities) boast to equal this?—None. Join then with me, and by Voting for Mr. BERKELEY prove yourselves Patrons of Public Virtue.

December 18, 1780.

A FREEHOLDER.

P. S. Lest it should be thought that I am a Dependant of this Family, I think it necessary to declare, that I have not the the Honor of the least Connection with it, nor ever spoke to the Candidate but once; but I feel a Warmth which every Englishman should feel, being of Opinion there is not a Subject Family now existing, to whom this Kingdom is more indebted, than to the BERKELEY FAMILY.